

Responsibilities of US LBA-Ecology Investigators

June 14, 1999

The policy outlined in this document is applicable to US-funded researchers. Any South American teams that wish to affiliate with LBA should contact the Science Steering Committee (<http://www.cptec.inpe.br/lba/>) for advice.

1. Science Content. Participation on the LBA-Ecology Science Team is open to scientists whose research falls under the LBA-Ecology Goal and the plans and scientific questions outlined in the Experiment Plan for LBA-Ecology.
2. Collaboration with Host Country Scientists. Each LBA-Ecology investigation is required to include an effective collaboration with one or more scientists from the South American host country for the study. Involvement of Amazonian scientists is encouraged whenever possible.
3. Participation in Science Team Activities. LBA-Ecology is a team project. The purpose of uniting a team is to encourage mutual support and collaboration. The products of the team should be more valuable than the products of a similar number of individual investigations. In order to coordinate team activities, all investigators should participate in science team meetings and where appropriate small workshops. Investigators should work with the LBA-Ecology Project office as well as the overall LBA Central Office to coordinate their activities.

For practical purposes and based on the history of NASA funding, the LBA-Ecology team is divided into a number of sub-projects. For those projects with NASA funding, NASA requests that at least one representative investigator from S. America and one from the US attend each full science team meeting (normally 2 per year). Support for this participation is budgeted by the investigators from grant funds. Research teams not funded by NASA also are expected to send representatives to these coordination meetings. Participation in LBA Science Meetings is also expected.

4. Participation in Education and Training. All LBA-Ecology teams are required to participate in LBA-related training and education activities. There is no single formal requirement, however most teams will be involved in presenting seminars or short courses and training graduate students and technicians. The primary focus of training and education activities are project participants from South America, particularly those from the Amazon region.
5. Adherence to the LBA Data and Publication Policies - The LBA Science Steering Committee recommended data and publication policies are attached below. The LBA-Ecology Science Team endorsed these policies. All LBA-Ecology participants should adhere to these policies. NASA funded investigators must also follow NASA data policies.

ANNEX 3

LBA Data and Publication Policies

Approved by the LBA Science Steering Committee, May 13, 1998, Piracicaba, SP, Brazil

INTRODUCTION

LBA data policies are guided by the fundamental principle that cooperation and synergism should be maximized in all LBA activities. To ensure that all LBA participants have access to data in a timely manner and that appropriate credit is given to the Investigators, there is a strong need for a definition of data policies that will be adopted by the entire LBA.

LBA data policies will guide data sharing, citation of data from other, investigators access to restricted data and promote the exchange of quality controlled / quality assured data. All LBA researchers must follow the national laws concerning export of all data gathered by foreign researchers of the various Amazonian countries, notably Brazil. The LBA home page and the project offices in Brazil can provide this information.

LBA data and publication policies:

1. Data generated by LBA will become public domain and will be permanently archived in Brazil. The LBA Data Information System (DIS) will provide tools for documenting, storing, searching and distributing these data.
2. All LBA data should be available to all LBA researchers. Exceptions may be made in the case of raw or preliminary data, for which distribution can be restricted for a limited period of time.
3. There will be no periods of exclusive rights to publish LBA results. Exceptions are possible for students where graduation requirements prohibit publication of results prior to acceptance of a Thesis.

4. Individual investigators may make their own data more widely available at any time. Outside investigators may be given access to this data as soon as the data have been submitted to the LBA DIS, with some prudent time period for quality control.

5. Each LBA module is responsible for establishing a time schedule for data exchange within the projects and data delivery to LBA DIS. The time limit for data delivery to LBA-DIS will be no more than one year.

6. Data should be analyzed cooperatively by all scientists involved in obtaining them. Especially cooperation across disciplines and among South American, European and North American researchers should be encouraged. Publications resulting from work under LBA should be co-authored by all scientists who have participated substantially in the work, unless some participants choose not to be on the authors' list. The same applies to presentations at meetings. Special effort by each non-South American researcher should be put into integration of South American researchers in their work and in the publication of the results.

7. Where data are used for modeling or integrating studies, the scientist collecting the data will be credited appropriately, either by co-authorship or by citation. Investigators using data provided by another investigator as a substantial component of a paper should offer the originating investigator co-authorship. In cases where data from other investigators are a minor contribution to a paper, the data should be referenced by a citation. Users of the data will always have to state the source of the data.

8. Specific constraints for certain data sources (e.g. satellite products, global meteorological analysis, etc) may be subject to copyright restrictions which are more limiting than this LBA data policy. It is up to the LBA-OIC to take the first steps in making contacts with officials and institutions in order to prepare specific agreements that will allow LBA scientists to use the data.

9. If conflicts do occurs, they should be resolved at the level of the LBA modules.

